

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 2002-8

February 6, 2002

CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY
Tariff Revision to Delay the Price Increase
For Laminated Poles to June 30, 2002 to
Allow the Towns Time to Build the Increase
Into the Budgets (AL) and Street Lighting
Service (Rate SL)

ORDER APPROVING
RATE SCHEDULES

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

SUMMARY OF DECISION

By this Order, the Commission approves Central Maine Power Company's (CMP's or the Company) proposed revisions to its Area Lighting (Rate AL) and Street Lighting (Rate SL) service rate schedules.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

On January 3, 2002, CMP filed proposed revisions to Rates AL and SL. These revisions seek to temporarily lower the monthly rate for laminated poles back to the rate that was in place prior to October, 2001.¹ In its January filing, CMP indicated that this proposed decrease is in response to municipal customers whose budgets were impacted by the October increase. CMP proposes delaying the increase until July 1, 2002 so that the increase can be incorporated into the towns' budgets for the new fiscal year.

We have reviewed the proposed revisions to the rate schedule and find the decrease in the laminated pole rate to be reasonable. However, upon further consideration, we have some concern with the increase proposed to retake effect on July 1, 2002. CMP has indicated that this change is necessary to reflect an increase in the cost of the poles. However, based on conversations with the Company and a review of Section 13 of CMP's Terms and Conditions, there is some question about whether it is appropriate to apply the increase to all laminated poles or just to new laminated poles, on a going-forward basis.

Therefore, we will approve the rate schedules as filed by CMP on an interim basis but will reexamine the proposed increase prior to its taking effect in July, 2002.

¹ The October increase was approved by Order dated October 23, 2001 in Docket No. 2001-657.

Accordingly, we

O R D E R

That the following Rate Schedule pages filed by Central Maine Power Company shall become effective on February 2, 2002, as requested by the Company:

Page Numbers	Revision Number	Date Filed
Page 15.06	4 th	January 3, 2002
Page 150.07	4 th	January 3, 2002

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 6th day of February, 2002.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Raymond Robichaud
Assistant Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: WELCH

NUGENT
DIAMOND

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Appellate Procedure.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.